

## Health Care Worker Immunizations

### Massachusetts Recommendations and Requirements for 2006

Recommended Immunizations For Health Care Workers <sup>1</sup>		
Vaccine	Persons Born Before 1957	Persons Born In or After 1957
MMR <sup>2</sup> (Measles, mumps, rubella)	1 dose	2 doses
Varicella <sup>3</sup>	2 doses	2 doses
Influenza	1 dose/year	1 dose/year
Hepatitis B <sup>4</sup>	3 doses	3 doses
Td/Tdap <sup>5</sup> (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)	1 Td booster every 10 years, Substitute Tdap for 1 dose of Td	Booster every 10 years
Pneumococcal	1 dose at any age if at risk for pneumococcal disease; 1 dose for everyone ≥ 65 years of age	1 dose at any age if at risk for pneumococcal disease

<sup>1</sup> Health care workers (HCWs) are defined as full- and part-time staff with or without direct patient care responsibilities, including physicians, students and volunteers who work in inpatient, outpatient and home-care settings.

<sup>2</sup> Unvaccinated HCWs born before 1957 should receive 1 dose of MMR, unless they have documented immunity to measles, mumps **and** rubella. HCWs born in or after 1957, should receive 2 doses of MMR, one month apart, unless they have documented immunity to measles, mumps **and** rubella. In Massachusetts, proof of immunity to measles and rubella is required for certain HCWs. (Refer to: MASSACHUSETTS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS below)

<sup>3</sup> Varicella vaccine is indicated for HCWs who have neither a reliable history (physician diagnosis or personal recall) of varicella disease nor serologic evidence of immunity.

<sup>4</sup> Prevacination hepatitis B serologic screening is not indicated for persons being vaccinated because of occupational risk. HCWs who have contact with patients or blood **and** who are at ongoing risk for injuries with sharp instruments or needlesticks should be tested 1-2 months after vaccination to determine serologic response.

<sup>5</sup> HCWs who work in hospitals or ambulatory care settings and have direct patient contact should receive a single dose of Tdap as soon as feasible if they have not previously received Tdap. Priority should be given to vaccination of health-care personnel with direct contact with infants aged <12 months. An interval as short as 2 years from the last dose of Td is recommended for the Tdap dose. Other health-care personnel (i.e., those who do not work in hospitals or ambulatory care settings or who do not have direct patient contact) should receive a single dose of Tdap according to the routine recommendation and interval guidance for use of Tdap among adults. However, these personnel are encouraged to receive the Tdap dose at an interval as short as 2 years following the last Td.

Massachusetts Immunization Requirements for Health Care Workers		
Group and Regulation	Requirement	Proof of Immunity
Health care personnel assigned to maternal-newborn areas (105 CMR 130.626)	Immunity to measles and rubella	At least one dose of vaccine on or after 12 months of age; serologic evidence of immunity to rubella and measles; or, for measles only, physician-diagnosed disease.

Note: Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations may include other immunization requirements for workers in certain occupational settings.

These Adult Immunization Guidelines are based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the National Coalition for Adult Immunization. For specific ACIP recommendations refer to the full statements at [www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/ACIP-list.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/ACIP-list.htm). They are also published in the MMWR. For questions about these recommendations visit the MDPH website at [www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph) or call MDPH toll-free at 1-888-658-2850.